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In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-6, 12-22, and 24 and amend claims 7-11, 23 and add new claims 29-30 as follows:

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1-6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended) An extended Universal-Serial-Bus (USB) connector plug
10 for insertion into an extended USB socket or into a standard USB socket, the
extended USB connector plug comprising:
an extended pin substrate that has an extended length that is longer than or equal to a
standard length of the pin substrate of the standard USB connector plug;
plug standard metal contact pins on the pin substrate, wherein when the standard pin
15 substrate of the extended USB connector plug is inserted into a cavity of the
standard USB socket, the standard metal contact pins make physical and electrical
contact with plug standard metal contact pins on a plug pin substrate;
plug extended metal contact pins on the extended pin substrate;
wherein when the extended pin substrate of the extended USB connector plug is inserted
20 into a cavity of the extended USB socket, the plug extended metal contact pins on
the extended pin substrate make physical and electrical contact with socket
extended metal contact pins on the extended USB socket;
a set of ribs on the extended pin substrate, adjacent to the plug extended metal contact
pins of the extended USB connector plug;
25 wherein set of ribs prevents the plug extended metal contact pins from making contact
with a standard metal cover when the extended USB connector plug is inserted
into the standard USB socket with the standard metal cover,
whereby the set of ribs prevents shorting to the standard metal cover of the standard USB
socket and whereby the plug extended metal contact pins make contact when the
30 extended USB connector plug is inserted into the extended USB socket, but do not make
contact when inserted into the standard USB socket.

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8. (currently amended) The extended USB connector plug of claim 7 wherein the
plug extended metal contact pins are recessed into the extended pin substrate of
the extended USB connector plug,

5 wherein the plug extended metal contact pins do not make contact to a standard metal
cover when the extended USB connector plug is inserted into the standard USB
socket with the standard metal cover,
whereby recessing the plug extended metal contact pins prevents shorting to the standard
metal cover of the standard USB socket.

10 9. (currently amended) The extended USB connector plug of claim 7 further
comprising:
~~a set of ribs on the extended pin substrate, adjacent to the plug extended metal contact~~
~~pins of the extended USB connector plug;~~
~~wherein set of ribs prevents the plug extended metal contact pins from making contact~~
15 ~~with a standard metal cover when the extended USB connector plug is inserted~~
~~into the standard USB socket with the standard metal cover;~~
~~whereby the set of ribs prevents shorting to the standard metal cover of the standard USB~~
~~socket.~~

wherein the plug standard metal contact pins carry standard USB signals during an
20 initialization phase after insertion that includes a switch command sequence to
switch to an extended mode;
wherein the plug extended metal contact pins carry extended-mode signals after the
switch command sequence is sent over the plug standard metal contact pins
wherein the extended-mode signals are PCI-Express signals, Serial-AT-Attachment
25 signals, Serial Attached Small-Computer System Interface (SCSI), or IEEE 1394
signals

10. (currently amended) The extended USB connector plug of claim 7 wherein the
plug extended metal contact pins comprise 8 pins;
30 wherein the plug standard metal contact pins comprise 4 pins.

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11. (currently amended) The extended USB connector plug of claim 7 wherein the plug extended metal contact pins comprise a single row of pins or two rows of pins.

5 12-22. (canceled)

23. (currently amended) A dual-personality connector plug comprising:

a housing for gripping by a user when inserting into a standard socket or into a dual-personality socket, the housing having wires passing there-through;

10 a pin substrate made from non-conducting material, extending outward from the housing along an insertion axis;

a metal cover, extending outward from the housing and wrapping around the pin substrate with sides parallel to the insertion axis and an opening perpendicular to the insertion axis at an end opposite the housing;

15 wherein the pin substrate has an insertable portion near the opening ~~that is thinner than a housing portion near the housing~~, wherein the insertable portion is for inserting into the standard socket or into the dual-personality socket;

plug standard metal contacts formed on a first surface of the insertable portion of the pin substrate, the plug standard metal contacts connected to the wires passing through
20 the housing; and

plug extended metal contacts formed on the insertable portion of the pin substrate, the plug extended metal contacts connected to the wires passing through the housing;

wherein the plug extended metal contacts do not electrically contact a metal cover or socket metal contacts of the standard socket when inserted, but the plug standard metal contacts make electrical contact with socket metal contacts of the standard socket when inserted;
25

wherein the plug extended metal contacts electrically contact socket metal contacts of the dual-personality socket when inserted, and the plug standard metal contacts make electrical contact with socket metal contacts of the standard socket when inserted.
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24. (canceled)

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25. (original) The dual-personality connector plug of claim 23 wherein the plug
extended metal contacts are formed on a second surface opposite the first surface
of the insertable portion of the pin substrate, the plug extended metal contacts
being recessed into the second surface so that the plug extended metal contacts do
not electrically contact the metal cover of the standard socket when inserted.
26. (original) The dual-personality connector plug of claim 23 wherein the plug
extended metal contacts are formed on a second surface opposite the first surface
of the insertable portion of the pin substrate;
wherein the second surface is a moveable surface that retracts when the insertable portion
is inserted into the standard socket.
27. (original) The dual-personality connector plug of claim 23 wherein the plug
extended metal contacts are also formed on the first surface of the insertable
portion of the pin substrate, the plug extended metal contacts being located farther
from the opening than the plug standard metal contacts.
28. (original) The dual-personality connector plug of claim 23 wherein the standard
socket is a Universal-Serial-Bus (USB) socket and wherein the plug extended metal
contacts carry PCI-Express signals, serial ATA signals, Serial Attached Small-Computer
System Interface (SCSI), or Firewire IEEE 1394 signals.
29. (new) The dual-personality connector plug of claim 23 wherein the plug standard
metal contacts carry standard Universal-Serial-Bus (USB) signals during an
initialization phase after insertion that includes a switch command sequence to
switch to an extended mode;
wherein the plug extended metal contacts carry extended-mode signals after the switch
command sequence is sent over the plug standard metal contacts.

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30. (new) The dual-personality connector plug of claim 29 wherein the extended-mode signals comprise a transmit differential pair and a receive differential pair that each carry uni-directional signals, while the standard USB signals comprise a single differential pair that carried bi-directional data.

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